What is claimed is:

1. A prosthetic device for transforaminal insertion into an intervertebral space, comprising a first component having a first curved flange for engaging a first vertebra from a transforaminal approach, the first component having a first articular surface, and a second component having a second curved flange for engaging a second vertebra from a transforaminal approach, the second component having a second articular surface for cooperating with the first articular surface to permit articulating motion between the first and second components.

2. The prosthetic device of claim 1 wherein the first component comprises elongated curved side portions, the degree of curvature of the curved side portions corresponding to the degree of curvature of the first curved flange.

3. The prosthetic device of claim 1 wherein the second component includes elongated curved side portions, the degree of curvature of the curved side portions corresponding to the degree of curvature of the second curved flange.

4. The prosthetic device of claim 1 wherein the first curved flange extends along a substantial portion of the first component.

5. The prosthetic device of claim 1 wherein the first curved flange extends along a small portion of the first component.

6. The prosthetic device of claim 1 wherein the second curved flange extends along a substantial portion of the second component.

7. The prosthetic device of claim 1 wherein the second curved flange extends along a small portion of the second component.

8. The prosthetic device of claim 1 wherein the first curved flange includes a sharp portion for engaging and penetrating the first vertebra.

9. The prosthetic device of claim 1 wherein the second curved flange includes a sharp portion for engaging and penetrating the second vertebra.

10. The prosthetic device of claim 1 wherein the first articular surface comprises a convex portion and the second articular surface comprises a concave portion.

11. The prosthetic device of claim 10 wherein the convex portion and the concave portion cooperate to permit articulating motion between the first and second components.

12. The prosthetic device of claim 1 wherein the first curved flange is positioned within a preformed transforaminal opening in the first vertebra.

13. The prosthetic device of claim 1 wherein the second curved flange is positioned within a preformed transforaminal opening in the second vertebra.

14. The prosthetic device of claim 1 wherein the first and second curved flanges include at least one hole formed therethrough.

15. The prosthetic device of claim1 wherein the first and second curved flanges are coated with a bone-growth promoting substance.

16. A prosthetic device for transforaminal insertion into an intervertebral space, comprising:

a first component having a projection extending therefrom; and

a second component having a recess defined therein, whereby the projection engages the recess to provide for articulating motion between the first and second components;

wherein the first and second components each comprise:

a curved flange, the curvature of the flange corresponding to a transforaminal approach to an intervertebral space; and

a pair of curved side portions, the curvature of the side portions being congruous with the curvature of the curved flange.

17. The prosthetic device of claim 16 wherein the first and second components each comprise a bearing surface and an articular surface.

18. The prosthetic device of claim 17 wherein the curved flange of the first component extends along a substantial portion of the bearing surface of the first component.

19. The prosthetic device of claim 17 wherein the curved flange of the first component extends along a small portion of the first component.

20. The prosthetic device of claim 17 wherein the curved flange of the second component extends along a substantial portion of the bearing surface of the second component.

21. The prosthetic device of claim 17 wherein the curved flange of the second component extends along a small portion of the second component.

22. The prosthetic device of claim 17 wherein the projection is convex and extends from the articular surface of the first component.

23. The prosthetic device of claim 22 wherein the recess is concave and is formed in the articular surface of the second component.

24. A prosthetic component for forming a portion of a prosthetic device, comprising a first surface having a curved flange for engaging a vertebra from a transforaminal approach, a second surface in an opposed relation to the first surface, the second surface being adapted to engage another prosthetic component, and a pair of curved side portions defined between the first and second surfaces, the curvature of the side portions being congruous with the curvature of the flange.

25. A method for inserting a prosthetic device into an intervertebral space from a transforaminal approach, comprising:

providing a prosthetic device having a first component and a first curved flange extending along a surface of the first component, and a second component and a second curved flange extending along a surface of the second component; and

inserting the first component into a first vertebra and inserting the second component into a second vertebra, whereby the first component engages the second component to provide articulating motion therebetween.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein the first and second flanges engage and penetrate the first and second vertebra, respectively, during insertion.

27. The method of claim 25 wherein the first and second flanges are inserted into preformed openings of the first and second vertebra, respectively, during insertion.

28. The method of claim 25 wherein insertion of the first and second components into the first and second vertebrae, respectively, is accomplished at substantially the same time.